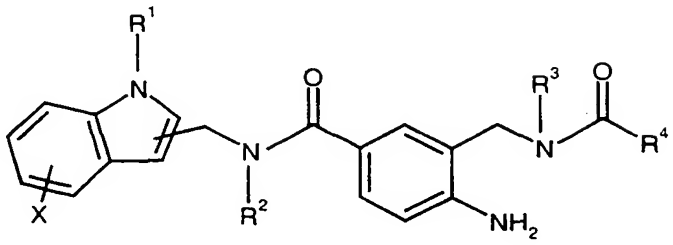
What is claimed is:

1. A compound according to formula (I):



(I)

wherein:

R^1 is C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^2 is C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^3 is -C_{1-4}alkyl, -C_{0-4}alkyl-Ar or -C_{0-4}alkyl-Het;

R^4 is -C_{1-4}alkyl, -$(CH_2)_{1-4}OH$, -OC_{1-4}alkyl, -SC_{1-4}alkyl, -$N(C_{1-4}alkyl)_2$, -C_{0-4}alkyl-Ar, -C_{0-4}alkyl-Het, -C_{0-4}alkyl-C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, -CH(OH)-CH_2-R* or -$(CH_2)_{1-3}SO_2$Ar;

R* is C_{1-4}alkyl, Ar or Het;

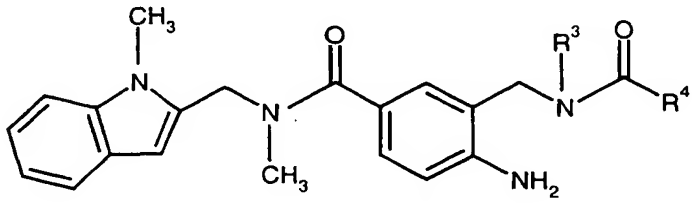
X is H, C_{1-4}alkyl, OR', SR', CN, $N(R')_2$, $CH_2N(R')_2$, NO_2, CF_3, CO_2R', $CON(R')_2$, COR', NR'C(O)R', F, Cl, Br, I, or -$S(O)_rCF_3$;

R' is H, C_{1-6}alkyl or -C_{0-6}alkyl-Ar; and

r is 0, 1 or 2;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 of formula (Ia):



(Ia).

3. A compound according to claim 1 in which R^3 is -C_{1-4}alkyl or -C_{0-2}alkyl-Ph.

4. A compound according to claim 1 in which R^4 is -C_{1-4}alkyl, -CH_2OH, -OC_{1-4}alkyl, -C_{0-2}alkyl-Ph, -C_{0-2}alkyl-C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, -CH(OH)-CH_2-R* or -$(CH_2)_2SO_2$Ph.

5. A compound according to claim 1 which is:

N-[(2-amino-5-{N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carbamoyl} phenyl)methyl]-N-methylacetamide;

N-[(2-amino-5-{N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carbamoyl} phenyl)methyl]-N-(2-phenylethyl)acetamide;

N-[(2-amino-5-{N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carbamoyl} phenyl)methyl]-2-hydroxy-4-methyl-N-methylpentanamide;

{4-amino-3-[(ethoxy-N-methylcarbonylamino)methyl]phenyl}-N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carboxamide;

N-[(2-amino-5-{N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carbamoyl} phenyl)methyl]-2-hydroxy-N-methylacetamide;

N-[(2-amino-5-{N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-3-yl)methyl]carbamoyl} phenyl)methyl]-N-methylacetamide;

N-[(2-amino-5-{N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carbamoyl} phenyl)methyl]-N-phenylacetamide;

N-[(2-amino-5-{N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carbamoyl} phenyl)methyl]-2-hydroxy-3-indol-3-yl-N-methylpropanamide;

(4-amino-3-{[(4-hydroxyphenyl)-N-methylcarbonylamino]methyl}phenyl)-N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carboxamide;

N-[(2-amino-5-{N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carbamoyl} phenyl)methyl]-N-methyl-3-(phenylsulfonyl)propanamide; or

N-[(2-amino-5-{N-methyl-N-[(1-methylindol-2-yl)methyl]carbamoyl} phenyl)methyl]-2-cyclopentyl-N-methylacetamide;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

7. A method for inhibiting Fab I which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a compound according to claim 1.

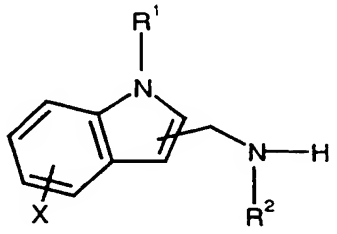
8. A method of treating bacterial infections which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof a compound according to claim 1.

9. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 6 for use as a medicament.

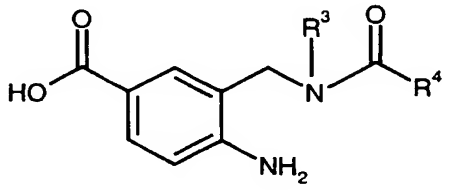
10. The use of a compound of the formula (I) as defined in claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of bacterial infections.

11. The use of a compound of the formula (I) as defined in claim 1 in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of diseases in which inhibition of Fab I is indicated.

12. A process for preparing compounds of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, which process comprises reacting a compound of formula (II) with a compound of formula (III):



(II)



(III)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4 and X are as defined in formula (I), with any reactive functional groups protected, in the presence of EDC and HOBT;

and thereafter removing any protecting groups, and optionally forming a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.